

## GREATEST ON RECORD!

Our business for the first week of our great

## Carpet and Wall Paper Sale!

is unprecedented. We have learned a lesson. This is our 26th year in business, and a memorial year we will make of it. What the people want is up-to-date goods at the lowest possible cut prices

## Extra Super All Wool Ingrains 49c. a Yd.

TEN WIRE TAPESTRY BRUSSELS 55 CENTS PER YARD.

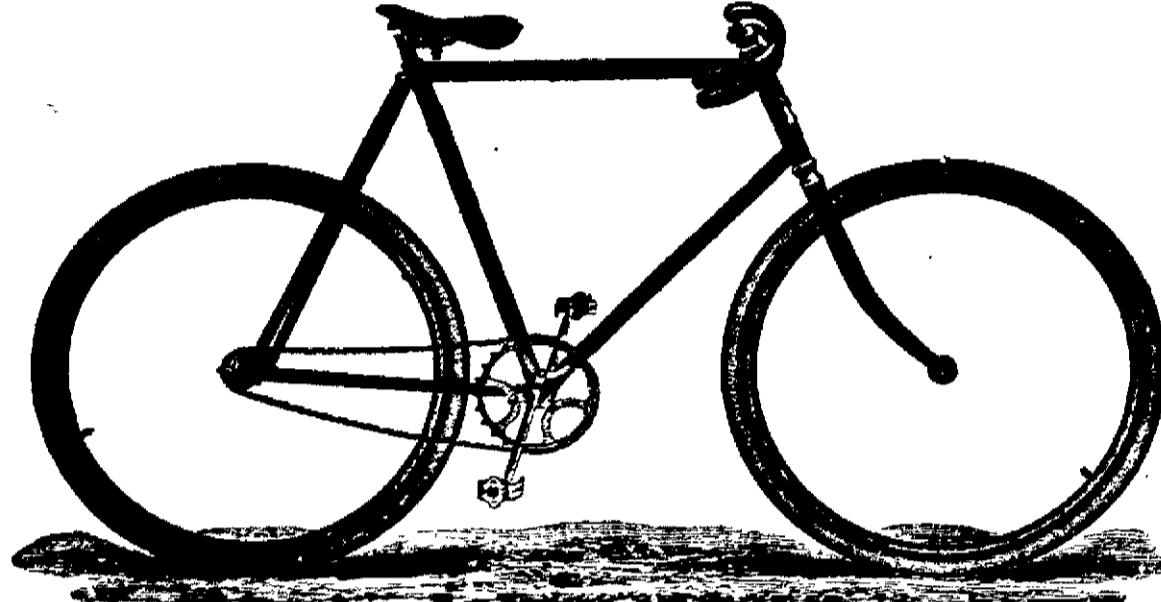
## Velvet Carpets 79c a Yard. Moquette Carpets 79c a Yard

WALL PAPER, WITH BORDER, 2 CENTS PER ROLL UP.

I tell you, friends, when you offer \$20,000 worth of Carpets and \$3,000 worth of Wall Paper at these prices, it creates a stir all over the county.

Our Furniture Department is the largest in Orange county, in fact we have outdone ourselves this spring. Cut prices is the order.

## Orange County Express Bicycles for 1898.



The most popular wheel in Orange county, strictly high grade and first-class in every particular. Our own guarantee received more votes, last fall, in the Bicycle Contest, than all other wheels put together. Sold for cash or on installments.

## C. EMMET CRAWFORD, 44-46 NORTH STREET, MIDDLETOWN, N. Y.

## Great Special Sale of Dry Goods for the Month Of April!

With the lowest prices ever given in Middletown at HART DAVIS'S, 45 North street. It presents an opportunity for economical buying that nobody can afford to miss. Our store is crowded with the newest of new styles selected with expert care as to quality, style and variety. It is the place to get the right goods at the right prices.

## Ladies' Wrappers:

672 Wrappers for this great sale. Lot No. 1—Ladies' dressmaker made Wrappers, made from the very best percale, all dark styles, handsomely trimmed and perfect fitting, \$1.49. Lot. No. 2—Ladies' Light Percale Wrappers, all dainty patterns, handsomely trimmed with Hamburg and double ruffles of the goods. A dainty house dress at \$1.29. Lot No. 3 in our great leader. Eight different styles in about twenty-five different colorings. Couldn't be better made by yourself for the money. All have extra ruffles of the same material, have bound seams, perfect fitting, come in both light and dark styles, 99c. Many stores would charge you \$1.50 for no better. Lot No. 4—Mostly all dark styles, made from percale and indigo blue prints and toulard cloth. Not one worth less than \$1. For this great sale 79c.

## Separate Skirts.

48 Black Figured Skirts, cut 37 yards wide, cambric lined, bound with velvet. As long as they last 98c. 72 Black Figured Brilliantine Skirts, cambric lined, velvet bound, all handsome patterns. As long as they last \$1.49. 24 Black Figured Brilliantine Skirts, rustled lined velvet bound, bound seams, \$1.98. 24 black silk finished plain Brilliantine Skirts, fancy black lining, satin waist band, couldn't be better made, \$3.68. Our tailor made Skirts, in all wool Serges, trimmed with three and five rows of Herend's braid. Our silk finished figured Brilliantine Skirts are worth \$5 in any store. For this sale \$3.98.

## An Umbrella Bargain.

125 twilled carola silk umbrellas made with steel rods, Congo handles, sterling silver trimmed, worth \$1.50; for this sale 98c. 75 pure silk Taffeta Umbrellas, steel rods, with silk case and tassels, Congo handles, worth \$2; for this sale \$1.49. The above are all black, 26 inches, good for rain or sun. Any lady who needs a fine umbrella can save just 50c by buying it at this sale.

## Ladies' Ribbed Vests.

1,540 Ladies' Summer Ribbed Vests in this lot. 60 dozen ladies' white 15c ribbed vests, short sleeves, full sizes; as long as they last 10c. 60 dozen ladies' white 10c sleeveless vests, good sizes; as long as they last 5c. 25 dozen ladies' ribbed, extra size vest, sizes 7, 8, 9, sleeveless; as long as they last 15c, two for 25c.

## Black and Fancy Underskirts.

Our underskirts are all made by a corset factory, corded with the corset bone, guaranteed to last as long as the skirt does or we refund the money. Black sateen skirts cut extra full, trimmed with fine ruffles, guaranteed fast black 98c, \$1.25, \$1.48, \$1.79. Fancy Perca Silk skirts, looks like silk and wears much better, \$1.98, \$2.25, \$2.68. Black Morene Skirts \$1.98, \$2.98. Crush Underskirts for summer 98c, \$1.25, \$1.48.

## Domestics.

Best Indigo Blue Prints 40c. a yard; 8c all linen brown cratch 6c yard; cotton cratch 3c and 4c yard; 5-4 bleached pillow cases 74c; 5-4 best pillow cases 12c; 6-4 best bleached pillow cases 14c; best bleached sheets made, 40, 44, 48c; good bleached muslin 4c yard; best bleached muslin made 6c yard.

## Dotted Swiss.

10 pieces fine dotted stripe and figured curtain Swiss, 36 inches wide, as long as it lasts, 12c yard. An odd lot of dotted swiss, slightly soiled, sold from 25 to 40c yard, to close out quick 15c yard.

## A Handkerchief Bargain.

1,200 white, real hem-stitched handkerchiefs, every lady ought to buy a dozen at the price as long as they last 8c each.

**HART DAVIS, No. 45 North Street.**

## SPAIN IS YIELDING

## Willing to Allow President McKinley to Relieve the Cubans.

## FEELING IN CONGRESS.

## Strain of Discontent Follows the Presidential Message.

## SPANISH INQUIRY COURT'S REPORT

## Expressions of Opinion by Congressmen on McKinley's Message—Mosquito Fleet Formed of Small Craft For Use in Case of War.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—Yesterday was one of action in every branch of official life—action in the White House, where the president and his cabinet advisers assembled in special cabinet session at 10:50; action in both branches of congress, where the message of the president on the Maine disaster and the report and testimony of the court of inquiry were received; action in the secret conferences of state officials and diplomats concerning the latest phases of Spanish-American negotiation, and action in the war and navy departments, with the Spanish situation as the common purpose of all the varying aspects of official action.

Seldom has a day been replete with so many diverse and important phases of a single subject. Yet throughout this activity the prevailing tone as received from administration sources has been more assuring, more in the line of peace, than it has been for some days. This was the impression conveyed by cabinet officers after the special cabinet session. The same sentiment characterized the diplomatic conferences at the state department. But in congress, which afforded the greatest field for anti-Spanish and warlike expressions, a strain of discontent and uneasiness prevailed after the president's message and the Maine report was submitted, especially on the house side.

The special cabinet session was held to go over the president's message and particularly to consider the latest developments in the negotiations now proceeding with Spain. These had assumed a wide field, embracing not only the Maine question, but the entire Cuban problem. The answer of Spain was in hand to the firm note sent through Minister Woodford last week stating that the condition of Cuban affairs had become so intolerable that the United States could not much longer remain inactive toward it.

The general tone of the Spanish answer impressed the president and cabinet officers most favorably, so much so that after the meeting it was stated by members that the outlook was far more assuring and that Spain had shown such a conciliatory tone that it was believed she would make concessions sufficient to permit an amicable adjustment of the present strained relations.

This was qualified, however, by the statement that the danger point had not yet passed and that war, while no longer a probability, was yet a possibility. The president had distinctly disclosed to his cabinet assistants his purpose to avert war if it was possible with a just solution of the Cuban problem, and he had felt from the disposition manifested by Spain that this just solution could be reached. This, however, is without considering congress, which may now that the subject is formally before it take some radical action.

"The evidence of witnesses comparatively close to the Maine at the moment is to the effect that only one explosion occurred: that no column of water was thrown in the air; that no shock to the side of the nearest vessel was felt, nor on land was any vibration noticed and that no dead fish were found.

"The evidence of the senior pilot of the harbor states that there is abundance of fish in the harbor, and this is corroborated by other witnesses. The assistant engineer of works states that after explosions made during the execution of works in harbor he has always found dead fish.

"The divers were unable to examine the bottom of the Maine, which was buried in the mud, but a careful examination of the sides of the vessel, the rents and breaks in which all point outward, shows without a doubt that the explosion was from the inside.

"A minute examination of the bottom of the harbor around the vessel shows absolutely no sign of the action of a torpedo, and the fiscal judge (advocate) of the commission can find no precedent for the explosion of the storage magazine of a vessel by a torpedo.

"The report makes clear that owing to the special nature of the proceedings followed and the absolute respect shown for the extra territoriality of the Maine the commission has been prevented from making such an examination of the inside of the vessel as would determine even the hypothesis of the internal origin of the accident. This is to be attributed to the regrettable refusal to permit of the necessary co-operation of the Spanish commission both with the commander and crew of the Maine and the different American officers commissioned to investigate the causes of the accident and later on with those employed in salvage work.

"The report finishes by stating that an examination of the inside and outside of the Maine as soon as such examination may be possible, as also of the bottom where the vessel rests, will prove that, supposing the remains of the wreck not to be totally or partially altered in the process of extraction, the explosion was undoubtedly due to some interior cause."

the president and the report of the court of inquiry. The following are a few of the expressions of opinion:

Cummings (Dem., N. Y.): "In my opinion the blowing up of the Maine ought to be considered one of the main factors in the case against Spain. The Spaniards are proverbial for their trickery. Their policy is one of delay. By shunting the issue made by the blowing up of the Maine they concentrate everything on the issue of the feeding of their own starving people. If I understand the president the Spaniards are unwilling that we should tax ourselves to feed this people, and if they finally agree to allow us to do so it will be a special favor to us and remove all pretext for interference. I have no comment to make. The American people will make their own comment and make it so loud that even the deaf will hear them."

Quigg (Rep., N. Y.): "A member of the foreign affairs committee: 'The facts disclosed in the message are those and only those which have been anticipated, and their effect on public feeling is naturally discounted. The president states them clearly and defines a course which becomes the chief magistrate of a sober, right intending and self confident people. He is acting with absolute good judgment, and I, as one representative, purpose to sustain him. War is hideous and should be resorted to only when no other course is possible in justice and self respect.'

Russell (Rep., Conn.): "The president's message transmitting the report and evidence of the Maine board of inquiry ought to receive this message of the president and the report as the forerunner of some decisive action, delayed for only two reasons—First, to exhaust every effort to preserve peace with honor to ourselves and justice to Cuba, and second to prepare most effectively for war."

Mr. Bromwell (Rep., O.): "The finding of the naval court fixes conclusively the responsibility for the explosion upon the Spanish authorities. No private individual could have procured or used such a mine as the report refers to without the knowledge, at least, and probably the connivance of the Spanish officials at Havana. I believe in holding Spain strictly accountable for the loss of our vessel and the murder of our men."

Mr. McGuire (Dem., Cal.): "The evident purpose of the president's message is to relegate the Maine incident to a subordinate place and to diplomatic adjustment."

Thomas M. Jett (Dem., Ills.): "The message of the president was along the lines he has thus far been following; that is, he is apparently wanting more time, and it will give the Spanish government a further opportunity to annihilate the Cubans and prepare for war."

Mr. Heatwole (Rep., Minn.): "The message and report would have to be considered by his committee, and he did not think it proper for him to express an opinion in advance."

## SPANISH COURT'S REPORT.

## Synopsis of the Findings, Which Claim Explosion Was Internal.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—A full synopsis of the report of the Spanish naval commission which investigated the destruction of the battleship Maine is here given. It is taken from a copy of the original report which is now on its way here from Havana, the synopsis being cabled in the meantime and yesterday placed in the hands of this government. The conclusions reached are directly opposite to those in the report of the court of inquiry submitted to congress. The synopsis is as follows:

"The report contains declarations made by ocular witnesses and experts. From these statements it clearly deduces and proves the absence of all those attendant circumstances which are invariably present on the occasion of the explosion of a torpedo.

"The evidence of witnesses comparatively close to the Maine at the moment is to the effect that only one explosion occurred: that no column of water was thrown in the air; that no shock to the side of the nearest vessel was felt, nor on land was any vibration noticed and that no dead fish were found.

"The evidence of the senior pilot of the harbor states that there is abundance of fish in the harbor, and this is corroborated by other witnesses. The assistant engineer of works states that after explosions made during the execution of works in harbor he has always found dead fish.

"The divers were unable to examine the bottom of the Maine, which was buried in the mud, but a careful examination of the sides of the vessel, the rents and breaks in which all point outward, shows without a doubt that the explosion was from the inside.

"Answer them, sons of the selfsame race. And blood of the selfsame clan. Let us speak with each other, face to face."

"And answer as man to man. And loyally love and trust each other as none but free men can."

Now fling them out to the breeze. Shamrock, thistle and rose, And the star spangled banner unfurl with these.

A message to friends and foes.

Wherever the sails of peace are seen and wherever the war wind blows.

A message to bond and thrall to wake.

For wherever we come, we twain.

The throne of the tyrant shall rock and quake.

And his menace be void and vain.

For you are lords of a strong young land and we are lords of the main.

Yes, this is the voice on the bluff March gale.

"We severed have been too long;

But now we have done with a wornout tale.

The tale of an ancient wrong.

And our friendship last long as love doth last and be stronger than death is strong."

Ministers Demand Intervention.

CHICAGO, March 29.—The Methodist and Congregational ministers of Chicago went on record at their weekly meetings in regard to the trouble between the United States and Spain. In each case resolutions were adopted favoring immediate intervention in behalf of the starving Cubans and favoring the use of force if necessary in supplying them with food. The president's course in regard to the matter was heartily commended at each meeting.

## VIEWS OF CONGRESSMEN.

## What They Say to Any of the Message and Report.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—A number of congressmen have been interviewed on their opinions on the message of



## CONGRESS HAS IT.

## Full Report of the Maine Court Submitted to Both Houses.

## MESSAGE OF EXECUTIVE.

## Abstract of Testimony Heard by the Court of Inquiry.

## WHAT CAPTAIN SIGSBEE SAID.

Ensign Powelson's Evidence Points to External Cause—Gunner's Mate Smith Found Plates Blown Inward—Discipline of the Ship Was Perfect.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The press yesterday sent the following message to congress:

To the Congress of the United States:

For some time prior to the visit of the Maine to Havana harbor our consular representatives pointed out the advantages to now from the visit of national ships to the Cuban waters, in accustoming the people to the presence of our flag as the symbol of good will and of our ships in the fulfillment of the mission of protection to American interests, even though no immediate need therefor might exist.

Accordingly on the 24th of January last, after conference with the Spanish minister in which the renewal of visits of our war vessels to Spanish waters was discussed and accepted, the peninsular authorities at Madrid and Havana were advised of the purpose of this government to resume friendly naval visits at Cuban ports and that in that view the Maine would forthwith call at the port of Havana. This announcement was received by the Spanish government with appreciation of the friendly character of the visit of the Maine and with notification of intention to return the courtesy by sending Spanish ships to the principal ports of the United States. Meanwhile the Maine entered the port of Havana on the 25th of January, her arrival being marked with no especial incident besides the exchange of customary salutes and ceremonial visits.

The Maine continued in the harbor of Havana during the three weeks following her arrival. No appreciable excitement attended her stay. On the contrary, a feeling of relief and confidence followed the resumption of the long interrupted friendly intercourse. So noticeable was this immediate effect of her visit that the consul general strongly urged that the presence of our ships in Cuban waters should be kept up by retaining the Maine at Havana or in the event of her recall by sending another vessel there to take her place.

## THE FATAL EXPLOSION.

At 40 minutes past 9, in the evening of the 15th of February, the Maine was destroyed by an explosion, by which the entire forward part of the ship was utterly wrecked. In this catastrophe 2 officers and 244 of her crew perished, those who were not killed outright by her explosion being penned between decks by the tangle of wreckage and drowned by the immediate sinking of the hull. Prompt assistance was rendered by the neighboring vessels anchored in the harbor, aid being especially given by the boats of the Spanish cruiser Alfonso XII and the Ward line steamer City of Washington, which lay not far distant. The wounded were generously cared for by the authorities of Havana, the hospitals being freely opened to them, while the earliest recovered bodies of the dead were interred by the municipality in a public cemetery in the city. Tributes of grief and sympathy were offered from all official quarters of the island.

The appalling calamity fell upon the people of our country with crushing force, and for a brief time an intense excitement prevailed, which in a community less just and self controlled than ours might have led to hasty acts of blind resentment. This spirit, however, soon gave way to the calmer processes of reason and to the resolve to investigate the facts and await material proof before forming a judgment as to the cause, the responsibility and the facts warranted the remedy due. This course necessarily recommended itself from the outset to the executive, for only in the light of a dispassionately ascertained certainty could it determine the nature and measure of its full duty in the matter. The usual procedure was followed, as in all cases of casualty or disaster to national vessels of any maritime state. A naval court of inquiry was at once organized, composed of officers qualified by rank and practical experience to discharge the onerous duty imposed upon them.

## A DISPASSIONATE INVESTIGATION.

Aided by a strong force of wreckers and divers the court proceeded to make a thorough investigation on the spot, employing every available means for the impartial and exact determination of the causes of the explosion. Its operations have been conducted with the utmost deliberation and judgment, and while independently pursued no source of information was neglected and the fullest opportunity was allowed for a simultaneous investigation by the Spanish authorities.

The finding of the court of inquiry was reached after 23 days of continuous labor, on the 21st of March instant, and having been approved on the 22d by the commander in chief of the United States naval force on the north Atlantic station was transmitted to the executive.

It is herewith laid before the congress, together with the voluminous testimony taken before the court.

Its report is, in brief, as follows:

When the Maine arrived at Havana, she was conducted by the regular government pilot to buoy No. 4, to which she was moored in from five and one-half to six fathoms of water.

The state of discipline on board and the condition of her magazines, bunkers, coal bunkers and storage compartments were found to be in accordance with the stand-

ard that excellent order prevailed and that no indication of any cause for an internal explosion existed in any quarter.

At 8 o'clock in the evening of Feb. 15 everything had been reported secure, and all was quiet.

At 40 minutes past 9 o'clock the vessel was suddenly destroyed.

There were two distinct explosions, with a brief interval between them. The first lifted the forward part of the ship very perceptibly. The second, which was more open, prolonged and of greater volume, is attributed by the court to partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines.

The evidence of the divers establishes that the after part of the ship was practically intact and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the explosion. The forward part was completely demolished.

## FINDINGS SUMMARIZED.

Upon the evidence of a concurrent external cause the finding of the court is as follows:

At frame 17 the outer shell of the ship, from a point 1 1/2 feet from the middle line of the ship and 6 feet above the keel when in its normal position, has been forced up so as to be now about four feet above the surface of the water, therefore about 34 feet above where it would be had the ship sunk uninjured.

The outside bottom plating is bent into a reversed V shape, the after wing of which, about 15 feet broad and 32 feet in length (frame 17 to frame 25), is doubled back upon itself against the continuation of the same plating extending forward.

At frame 18 the vertical keel is broken in two and the flat keel bent into an angle similar to the angle formed by the outside bottom plating. This break is now about six feet below the surface of the water and about 30 feet above its normal position.

In the opinion of the court this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 18 and somewhat on the shore side of the ship.

## CREW NOT TO BLAME.

The conclusions of the court are:

That the loss of the Maine was not in any respect due to fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of the crew;

That the ship was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the partial explosion of two or more of her forward magazines, and

That no evidence has been obtainable fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons.

I have directed that the finding of the court of inquiry and the views of this government thereon be communicated to the government of her majesty the queen regent, and I do not permit myself to doubt that the sense of justice of the Spanish nation will dictate a course of action suggested by honor and the friendly relations of the two governments.

It will be the duty of the executive to advise the congress of the result, and in the meantime deliberate consideration is invoked.

WILLIAM M'KINLEY.

## THE COURT'S REPORT.

Full Text of the Findings of the Maine Board of Inquiry.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The following is the full text of the report of the court of inquiry:

U. S. Iowa, First Rate, Key West, Monday, March 21, 1898.

After full and mature consideration of all the testimony before it the court finds as follows:

First.—That the United States battleship Maine arrived in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, on the 25th day of January, 1898, and was taken to buoy No. 4, in from 54 to 6 fathoms of water, by the regular government pilot.

The United States consul general at Havana had notified the authorities at that place the previous evening of the intended arrival of the Maine.

Second.—That the state of discipline on board the Maine was excellent, and all orders and regulations in regard to the care of safety of the ship were strictly carried out.

All ammunition was stowed in accordance with prescribed instructions, and proper care was taken whenever ammunition was handled.

Nothing was stowed in any of the magazines or shellrooms which was not permitted to be stowed there.

The magazines and shellrooms were always locked after having been opened, and after the destruction of the Maine the keys were found in their proper place in the captain's cabin, everything having been reported secure that evening at 8 p.m.

## TEMPERATURE ALL RIGHT.

The temperature of the magazines and shellrooms were taken daily and reported. The only magazine which had an undue amount of heat was the after 10 inch magazine, and that did not explode at the time the Maine was destroyed.

The torpedo warheads were all stowed in the after part of the ship under the wardroom and neither caused nor participated in the destruction of the Maine.

The dry gun cotton primers and detonators were stowed in the cabin aft and remote from the scene of the explosion. Waste was carefully looked after on the Maine to obviate danger. Special orders in regard to this had been given by the commanding officer.

Varnishes, driers, alcohol and other combustibles of this nature were stowed on or above the main deck and could not have had anything to do with the destruction of the Maine.

The medical stores were stowed aft under the wardroom and remote from the scene of the explosion.

No dangerous stores of any kind were stowed below in any of the other store-rooms.

The coal bunkers were inspected daily. Of those bunkers adjacent to the forward magazines and shellrooms four were empty—namely, B3, B4, B5, B6.

A16 had been in use that day, and A16 was full of New river coal. This coal had been carefully inspected before receiving it on board. The bunker in which it was stowed was accessible on three sides at all times, and the fourth side at this time on account of bunkers B4 and B6 being empty. This bunker, A16, had been inspected that day by the engineer officer on duty.

The fire alarms in the bunkers were in working order, and there had never been a case of spontaneous combustion of coal on board of the Maine.

The two after bunks of the ship were in use at the time of the disaster, and

for auxiliary purposes only, with a comparatively low pressure of steam and being tended by a reliable watch. These boilers could not have caused the explosion of the ship. The four forward boilers have since been found by the divers and are in fair condition.

On the night of the destruction of the Maine everything had been reported secure for the night at 8 p.m. by reliable persons through the proper authorities to the commanding officer. At the time the Maine was destroyed the ship was quiet and therefore least liable to acceleration caused by movements from those on board.

Third.—The destruction of the Maine occurred at 9:45 p.m. on the 15th day of February, 1898, in the harbor of Havana, she being at the time moored to the same buoy to which she had been taken upon her arrival.

There were two explosions of a distinctly different character, with a very short but distinct interval between them, and the forward part of the ship was very perceptible. The second, which was more open, prolonged and of greater volume, is attributed by the court to partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines.

The evidence of the divers establishes that the after part of the ship was practically intact and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the explosion. The forward part was completely demolished.

## FINDINGS SUMMARIZED.

Upon the evidence of a concurrent external cause the finding of the court is as follows:

At frame 17 the outer shell of the ship, from a point 1 1/2 feet from the middle line of the ship and 6 feet above the keel when in its normal position, has been forced up so as to be now about four feet above the surface of the water, therefore about 34 feet above where it would be had the ship sunk uninjured.

## CONDITION OF THE WRECK.

The evidence bearing upon this, being principally obtained from divers, did not enable the court to form a definite conclusion as to the condition of the wreck, although it was established that the after part of the ship was practically intact and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the destruction of the forward part.

The following facts in regard to the forward part of the ship are, however, established by the testimony.

That portion of the port side of the protective deck which extends from about frame 30 to about frame 41 was blown up aft and over to port. The main deck from about frame 30 to about frame 41 was blown up aft and slightly over to starboard, folding the forward part of the middle superstructure over and on top of the after part.

This was, in the opinion of the court, caused by the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines of the Maine.

Fifth.—At frame 17 the outer shell of the ship from a point 1 1/2 feet from the middle line of the ship and six feet above the keel when in its normal position has been forced up so as to be now about four feet above the surface of the water, therefore about 34 feet above where it would be had the ship sunk uninjured.

The outside bottom plating is bent into a reversed V shape, the after wing of which, about 15 feet broad and 30 feet in length (frame 17 to frame 25), is doubled back upon itself against the continuation of the same plating extending forward.

At frame 18 the vertical keel is broken in two and the flat keel bent into an angle similar to the angle formed by the outside bottom plating. This break is now about six feet below the surface of the water and about 30 feet above its normal position.

## A MINE SURELY CAUSED IT.

In the opinion of the court, this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 18 and somewhat on the port side of the ship.

Sixth.—The court finds that the loss of the Maine on the occasion named was not in any respect due to fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of the crew of said vessel.

Seventh.—In the opinion of the court, the Maine was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the partial explosion of two or more of her forward magazines.

Eighth.—The court has been unable to obtain evidence fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons.

W. T. SAMFSON, Captain U. S. N. President.

A. MARX, Lieutenant Commander U. S. N., Judge Advocate.

The court, having finished the inquiry, was ordered to make adjourned at 11 a.m. to await the action of the convening authority.

W. T. SAMFSON, Captain U. S. N., President.

A. MARX, Lieutenant Commander U. S. N., Judge Advocate.

U. S. Flagship New York, March 22, 1898, Off Key West.

The proceedings and findings of the court of inquiry in the above case are improved.

M. SCARD, Rear Admiral, Commandant in Chief of the United States Naval Forces on the North Atlantic Station.

## WHAT WITNESSES SAID.

Abstract of Most Important Evidence Laid Before the Court.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The following is the testimony of the most important witnesses before the naval court of inquiry:

## CAPTAIN SIGSBEE'S EVIDENCE.

Captain Sigsbee in testifying stated that he had assumed command of the Maine in 1897. He narrated the arrival of the battleship in Havana. In describing the surroundings when first moored to the Fern, about 250 yards to the northward and westward of the Maine, the German ship Gneisenau was anchored at the berth now occupied by the Spanish man-of-war Segespe, which is about 400 yards due north from the Maine. He then located the German man-of-war Charlotte, which came into the harbor a day or two later, which was anchored to the southward of the Maine's berth about 400 or 500 yards.

The dry gun cotton primers and detonators were stowed in the cabin aft and remote from the scene of the explosion. Waste was carefully looked after on the Maine to obviate danger. Special orders in regard to this had been given by the commanding officer.

Varnishes, driers, alcohol and other combustibles of this nature were stowed on or above the main deck and could not have had anything to do with the destruction of the Maine.

The medical stores were stowed aft under the wardroom and remote from the scene of the explosion.

No dangerous stores of any kind were stowed below in any of the other store-rooms.

The coal bunkers were inspected daily. Of those bunkers adjacent to the forward magazines and shellrooms four were empty—namely, B3, B4, B5, B6.

A16 had been in use that day, and A16 was full of New river coal. This coal had been carefully inspected before receiving it on board. The bunker in which it was stowed was accessible on three sides at all times, and the fourth side at this time on account of bunkers B4 and B6 being empty. This bunker, A16, had been inspected that day by the engineer officer on duty.

The fire alarms in the bunkers were in working order, and there had never been a case of spontaneous combustion of coal on board of the Maine.

Regarding the electric plant of the Maine, Captain Sigsbee said that there was no serious grounding or sudden

shorts. Mr. Powelson replied they were about 3/4 feet long and bulged in about six inches.

Continuing, witness said the divers up to the night before he was then on the stand had not been on the outside of the ship. The mud was too deep for them to walk on the bottom.

"What is the condition of the starboard turret?" witness was asked.

"To my knowledge it has not been found, sir," was the reply.

He understood something had been found under the place where the turret formerly was, but its exact character had not been determined.

"What impression is produced upon your mind by the reports so far as you have quoted them?" Ensign Powelson was asked.

"From reports alone or from the appearance of the wreck?"

"Either from such reports or from the conditions which you believe to exist."

## DAILY ARGUS

C. MACARDELL, JR.,  
PUBLISHER.GEORGE H. THOMPSON EDITOR.  
W. F. BAILEY, C. E. NICKINSON, C. E. BURROS.

Office 11 and 13 King St., Middletown.

OFFICIAL CITY PAPER.

WEATHER INDICATIONS.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 29.—Showers followed by clearing weather, Wednesday; colder, winds becoming northerly.

## THE TEMPERATURE.

The following was the registry of the thermometer at Frank's drug store, to-day:

7 a. m., 44°; 12 m., 49°; 3 p. m., 50°.

The granting of a franchise and a five years' contract for street lighting to the Citizens' Electric Light and Power Company insures competition in the lighting business in this city, and will probably result in materially lower prices for both gas and electric light. If that result follows, the Common Council did a good thing for the people of Middletown when it gave the Citizens' Company its franchise and the lighting contract.

Two facts developed by the testimony taken by the Court of Inquiry point most conclusively to Spanish responsibility for the destruction of the Maine. One was the letter received by Consul General Lee on Feb. 10th, warning him that the Maine was to be fully dealt with. The letter, which was produced before the Court, is withheld by the government, a most significant circumstance. Still more important, as directly implicating Spain was the statement of Capt. Stevens, of the Ward liner, City of Washington, who has been familiar with Havana's harbor for years, that the fatal buoy, at which the Maine was ordered to anchor, was the least used of all the buoys in the harbor, that he had never known a man-of-war to be anchored there and that merchant vessels were very rarely ordered there. This points to the inevitable conclusion that there was a sinister motive in assigning the Maine her anchorage and that she was designedly placed over the mine which destroyed her.

Cold, colorless and perfunctory, outlining no policy and making no recommendation but for further delay, President McKinley's message, which accompanied the report on the Maine, was a disappointment to Congress and to the whole country. It was received in both houses with ominous silence, but in private conversation Senators and Representatives were outspoken in their expressions of disappointment and chagrin. Their utterances indicate that the President's dream of a united Congress, yielding to his wishes and being guided by his hand, is a thing of the past. Senators Morgan and Foraker have announced their intention to force the Cuban question to the front, the former by a resolution declaring war on Spain and the latter by a joint resolution for the recognition of Cuban independence, and unless all signs fail Speaker Reed's iron rule will not much longer avail to hold in check the war spirit that is rampant in the House. In all sections of the country the message was a chilling disappointment. The President may have done what was best for the country and therefore wisest and most statesmanlike, but in so doing he has sacrificed his personal popularity and weakened the nation's confidence in his courage and patriotism.

## ONCE AT ODDS, NOW UNITED.

A Wedding With a Tinge of Romance—Chas. W. Hill and Mrs. Thorne, Who Were Married Last Night, Quarreled Over Dr. Darwood.

The wedding of Charles W. Hill and Mrs. Thirza Margaret Thorne, which occurred Monday night, was not without a tinge of romance. A few years ago, Mrs. Thorne and her fifteen-year-old son lived on the third floor of the building in which Budwig & Co. are located, and Mr. Hill's family lived on the second floor. During the sensational Darwood trial Mrs. Thorne and Mr. Hill, both attendants on St. Paul's Church, took opposite sides. The result was a coldness which resulted in Mrs. Thorne's moving from the house. The transfer of Darwood, however, slowly healed the difference in the congregation and the friendship of these two families was re-established, and after the death of Mr. Hill's first wife he found solace for his grief in the smiles of Mrs. Thorne.

Monday night Mr. Hill and Mrs. Thorne stood under a floral bower in an alcove in her home, No. 28 Monaghan avenue, and Rev. Dr. Frank L. Wilson, who succeeded Dr. Darwood, made them one. About twenty-five friends were present. The couple were attended by Frank Mason, brother of the bride, of Newark, and Miss Annie Canfield, of Newark, N.J.

The bride was attired in a gown of golden silk, trimmed with point lace, and she carried a bouquet of bridal roses.

A reception followed the ceremony and in the evening the couple went to the groom's home, No. 20 Beattie avenue, where they will reside in the future.

Among the guests at the wedding were Mrs. Herman Keener, sister of the bride, of Elizabeth, N.J., and Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Pratt, of New York city.

## WAR TALK IN THE SENATE.

Resolutions Offered Declaring War—Recognizing Cuban Independence and Directing the President to Drive Spanish Forces Out of Cuba—Senator Mason Announced That He Was for War and the Galleries Cheered—Populists and Silver Republicans Favor Cuban Independence.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—Senators and others, who have talked with the President, say that the proposition for an armistice came from Spain and while it is being considered in connection with other negotiations the President insisted that any proposed armistice must be complied with. Other conditions are not stated but look to permanent peace and self-government by the Cubans.

It was stated by one senator that matters would be brought to a head within a very short time.

In the Senate, to-day, Senator Rawlins, of Utah, introduced a joint resolution recognizing the independence of Cuba and declaring war against Spain. Foraker offered a resolution for Cuban independence.

Foraker spoke of the delays caused by the De Lome incident and the Maine incident, but declared that the Cuban question would come up, whatever was done about the Maine.

Senator Frye introduced a resolution reciting the conditions in Cuba, and directing the President, in his discretion, to take steps to drive Spain's naval and military forces from the island of Cuba, and to secure complete independence for the island.

All these resolutions went to the Foreign Relations Committee.

Senator Mason followed the introduction of the resolutions with a vigorous war speech. Mr. Mason said the Maine catastrophe should be replied to vigorously. He could not speak for others but as for himself he was for war. This declaration brought out a vigorous outburst of applause from the galleries. His demand was that the Spanish flag should be driven from the Western Hemisphere.

The Populists and Silver Republicans of both Houses held a conference, to-day, and it resulted in a resolution presented by Allen in the Senate and Bell in the House, declaring for Cuban independence.

## RUSSIA'S TRIUMPH IN THE EAST

Port Arthur and the Port of Ta-Lian-Wan Ceded to It.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 29.—Official announcement is made that Port Arthur and the Port of Ta-Lian-Wan have been ceded to Russia and will be immediately occupied by Russian troops and the Russian flag hoisted by the side of the Chinese flag.

The cessions are for twenty-five years but may be renewed.

The Port of Ta-Lian-Wan will be opened to foreign trade.

## THE CABINET UNITED.

All Members Are in Heartily Accord With the President.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—At the close of the Cabinet meeting, to-day, Secretary Alger gave out the following statement: "So far from there being any difference of opinion among the members of the Cabinet, they are all in hearty accord with the President. He must take one step at a time. There need be no fear that he will not take the next."

## UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES

Our Flag Over the Torpedo Boat Bought in Germany.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

BERLIN, March 29.—Lieut. John J. Knapp, U. S. N., has hoisted the stars and stripes over the torpedo boat purchased at the Schichan Yards, on Monday. She was rechristened the Somers.

## AFTER MORE VESSELS

Negotiating for the Purchase of Torpedo Boat Destroyer, etc.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

BERLIN, March 29.—Lieut. Commander Niblack, U. S. N., has opened negotiations with the Stettin and Vulcan yards for the purchase of torpedo boat destroyers.

## FUTURE OF "THE PALM."

Leased to a New York Party—Mr. Rowley May Remain.

W. D. Quakes, the owner of the building occupied by "The Palm," on West Main street, has announced to his tenants, Strait & Hoey and W. R. Rowley, that he has leased "The Palm" for fifteen years to a man named Purcell, of New York city. Mr. Rowley has been invited to remain there, but Strait & Hoey will retire.

## TO Muster When the Fire Bell Rings.

Major Chase, of the 12th Battalion, has issued an order to members of the 5th and 10th companies, of Newburgh, that the continuous ringing of the fire bell will be a summons for every man to report without delay at the armory.

What pleasure is there in life with a headache, constipation and biliousness? Thousands experience them who could become perfectly healthy by using Dr. Witt's Little Early Risers, the famous little pills. W. D. Olney.

A reception followed the ceremony and in the evening the couple went to the groom's home, No. 20 Beattie avenue, where they will reside in the future.

Among the guests at the wedding were Mrs. Herman Keener, sister of the bride, of Elizabeth, N.J., and Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Pratt, of New York city.

**Dr. Bull's Pills**  
Nothing removes humor from the blood so nicely and gives the complexion such a clear, clean appearance as Dr. Bull's Pills. But get only the genuine, Dr. John W. Bull's Pills. Price 10 and 20 cts.

## A Glad Deliverance.

The Newburgh *Daily News* makes the glad announcement that its financial difficulties are at an end. New capital has been enlisted, and all claims against the company adjusted. Major Weston, who, as receiver of the company, rescued it from its troubles, becomes secretary and treasurer of the company, and will have charge of its financial management. William H. Keefe, who has made the *News* what it is, will continue as editor and as president of the company.

Dr. Miles' *Pain Pills* are guaranteed to stop Headache in 20 minutes. "One cent a dose."

## DIED.

MOHAIR—In this city, March 28th, '98, Sarah Seely Mohair, in her sixtieth year. Funeral services will be held from the residence of her son, Benjamin Seely, No. 162 Railroad avenue, Wednesday afternoon, at two o'clock. Interment in family plot, Hillside Cemetery.

REEVE—Entered into rest, March 29th, '98, in this city Margaret C. widow of the late Justice P. Reeve, aged eighty one years, five months, twenty days.

Funeral notice will appear to-morrow.

## THIS WEEK.

## An Extraordinary Display.

Dry Goods of the best standard qualities, lower than ever before.

1 case Jamestown Dress Goods 50 new styles, \$2 89 per dress.

1 bale extra quality sheeting 4½ per yard.

1 case Curtain Material, Fancy Scrims, Dotted Swiss, Curtain Lace, Silkaline, etc., 5, 6, 8, 10, 12½ per yard.

Window Shades, complete, 12, 25c.

1 case Best Prints 3½ c.

The Greatest Values Ever Shown in All Departments.

## H. E. CHURCHILL &amp; CO..

No. 39 North Street.



## FOR BOYS.

Great surprises for the boys—Novelties for boys, 3 to 8 years, in Vestee, Sailor, etc., \$1 10 up. See our fine Blue Serge Suit at \$1 98.

Suits, 8 to 16, from \$9 00 up. See our Black or Brown Chevot Suite \$1 35.

For young men, 14 to 20 years, Black Chevot Suite \$2 98. A large variety plaids, etc., all wool, \$4 49, \$4 98. Knee pants or Waists 15 cents.

FOR MEN.

## THE QUO VADIS \$2 HAT IS A LEADER IN SALES.

This is the prettiest hat on the market in BROWN and BLACK. Knox, Dunlap, Young and Retsel styles also.

## Easter Neckwear!

But two weeks to Easter. You will need one of those choice Ties that ADORN our window. Sole agents for Knox Hats.

ADAMS & BOYD,  
No. 41 North Street, Middletown.

## KID GLOVES.

Our new line for spring has just been received. It includes the latest and best to be had in Kid Gloves. Here is the list.

Neptune, 4 button, at \$1 25.  
Loriant, 4 button, at \$1 00.  
Theodora, 2 clasp, at \$1 00.  
Abbott, 2 clasp Suede, \$1 25.  
Pauline, 4 button, mink, \$1 00.  
Napoleon, 2 clasp, gent's, \$1 75.

Bristol, 2 clasp, gent's, \$1 50.  
Fosterina, 5 hook, \$1 75.  
Fowler, 4 hook, \$1 35.  
William, 4 hook, \$1 00.  
Fowler, 2 hook, gent's, \$1 50.  
These are the genuine Foster Kid Gloves.

Wear warranted. See us for Dry Goods.

CARSON & TOWNER,  
No. 11 West Main Street. Telephone 166.Farm Harness, Horse Collars  
AND  
SWEAT COLLARS.

We carry a large line of the above named goods.

Call and look them over.

## JOHN T. OGDEN &amp; SON, 40 W. Main St.

Louisiana Red Cypress  
LUMBER!

## DENTISTRY.

DR. F. M. BARNES, Formerly  
Over Savings Bank.

Fine Dentistry in all its branches. PARTICULAR ATTENTION GIVEN THE NATURAL TEETH. Crown and Bridge Work, or teeth without plates, a specialty.

OFFICE OVER KERNOTHAN'S JEWELRY STORE, 11-19 Montgomery St., Middletown.

FOR RENT—Marshall cottage, six rooms, Richmond Heights, Mountain avenue, also Carter cottage, German street. Rent very low. EDWIN S. MERRILL, Attorney at Law. Rooms 8 and 9 Times Building, King street.

NECKWEAR—23c Nobby Easter styles, all shapes. 35c for the regular 50c styles.

HATS—98c for the Nobby Pearl Alpines. \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50 for the leading Derby's, black, brown, etc.

CAPS—Will be used for boys this spring. We are showing 25 styles, starting at 12c.

SHIRTS—Men's White Shirts 25c, others charge 50c. Men's black and white Cheviot Shirts only 17c.

MORRIS B. WOLF,  
Blue Front Store, One Price Only, 10 North St.

Always in the Lead at STERN'S.

The arrival of new spring goods at our store consists of

NEW SPRING CAPES, JACKETS, SHIRT WAISTS, SILK WAISTS  
and a Fine Line of Separate Dress Skirts.

A Satin Brocaded Skirt for \$4.95 is a beauty. We are showing quite a line of Spring Millinery in all its branches. Come and see at our handsome store.

## L. STERN 13-15 NORTH ST.

## FRAMED PICTURES.

Attractive and artistic at 43, 97c., \$1.29, \$1.97, \$2.47 and so on.

Genuine Water Colors, neatly framed, at 98c and \$1.19.

Framed Etchings at 98c, \$1.25, \$1.39.

Do you want a good Fountain Pen? We have them at \$1, \$1.50, \$2.50.

Easter Cards and Novelties are ready.

## Hanford &amp; Horton,

No. 6 North St., Middletown.

## A Bargain.

We can give a man or boy a special bargain in anything in the line of heavy goods just now. We would sacrifice on them and have the ready money rather than pack them away until next winter. We have been through our heavy



## ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities command it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50 cent bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

## CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.  
By Old Established House—High  
Character standing to act as officers here and  
do office work and correspondence at their home.  
Business already built up and established here.  
Salary \$900. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope  
for our terms to A. P. T. Elder, General  
Manager 139 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill.  
First Floor.

JUST STARTED!  
ICE CREAM SODA.

It will keep going from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Saturdays 10 p.m.) all days but Sunday. (Our Soda Fountain goes "dry" on Sunday.)

Good rich Ice Cream, our famous Full Fruit Syrups, pure soda water as cold as ice can make it. All sweet, clean and wholesome, all as perfect as skill and care can produce. All in a dainty gilt edged tumbler at 5 cents a glass and no thanks to the sugar trust. When out walking or shopping step in, take a chair and have a glass of Ice Cream Soda.

McMonagle & Rogers, 30 North St and 155 North St. (North Side Pharmacy.)

CHAMOIS SKINS—Oil dress ed and durable—Warranted not to harden after using in water. Just the thing for carriages and window washing.

McMonagle & Rogers, 30 North St and 155 North St. (North Side Pharmacy.)

\$22.50

Buys an elegant  
DINING ROOM SET

Solid Oak Sideboard

Piano finished, serpentine top, large burl French plate mirror, trimmed with brass cast handles base has two small and 1 large drawer and two locks.

A Highly Polished Oak Extension Table.  
with heavy fluted legs, neatly carved.SOLID OAK CHAIRS,  
with an antique finish, high back, nicely  
embossed very strong.ALL NEW GOODS.  
CARPETS AND CROCKERY which give  
us the rep-  
tation of beingThe Cheapest Place in  
the City.FRANCE &  
HATHAWAY,  
25 AND 27 EAST MAIN STREET

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

—5,000 draws prize at Greenleaf's.  
—Gardens made at C. N. Predmore & Son's.  
—Pork is a pound at Greenleaf's.  
—Dining room set \$22.50 at France & Hathaway's.  
—Spring appetizers at D. W. & Mundy's.  
—Claims against Patrick Kelly.  
—Basket ball show at Karslager's.  
—Meeting of Middletown Fair and Driving Park Association, April 5th.  
—Spring millinery opening, this week, at the New Idea.  
—Properties to let by E. E. Conkling.  
—When ailing, take Mayron's Remedies.  
—Backache cured by Beacon's Capsine Plasters.  
—Colic cured by Hale's Horseradish, Honey and Tar.  
—Dyspepsia cured by Dr. Dean's Dyspepsia Pills.  
—For kidney troubles, take Kennedy's Favorite Remedy.

## LIVE LOCAL TOPICS.

—Smoker at the armory, to-night.  
—Port Jervis is holding its incorporation election, to-day.  
—Water was let into most of the levels of the D. and H. Canal, yesterday.

—"My Friend From India" at the Casino, next Friday evening, April 1st.

—There is a breath of Spring in this, the trout season on Long Island opens to-day.

—The Gonzalez Opera Co. will appear in the Chimes of Normandy at the Casino, to-night.

—Guy Brothers at the Casino, Thursday night. Price twenty-five, thirty-five and fifty cents.

—On our inside pages will be found the full text of the findings of the Maine Court of Inquiry.

—Of the 543 Regents' examination papers sent to Albany from the Port Jervis academy, 524 were accepted.

—The Gonzalez Opera Company went to the State Hospital, this afternoon, and gave an entertainment for the patients.

—The regular weekly drill of the 24th Separate Company will be omitted, this evening, in consequence of the smoker and clam supper.

—The Gonzalez Opera Co. will give a matinee at the Casino, to-morrow afternoon, producing "Pinafore" with the whole company and chorus.

—The congregation of Trinity M. E. Church, Newburgh, has raised a purse of \$400 for Rev. Charles H. Snedeker, whose three years' pastorate ended Sunday.

—Jay Sage, a well known farmer of South New Berlin, committed suicide Sunday, by shooting himself through the head. Despondency on account of consumption caused the act.

—The Veriscope Company, which had the exclusive privilege of taking pictures of the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight at Carson City, will produce the pictures complete at the Casino, next Monday evening.

—The trading stamp stores in New Jersey closed their doors, Saturday night, but it is announced that they will test the constitutionality of the bill prohibiting the use of stamps and other trade premiums.

—Remember "My Friend From India" will be produced at the Casino, next Friday evening. The play is well known here and Walter Perkins, the original barber, is in the cast. The company is considered one of the best.

## PERSONAL.

—J. H. Wallack is in town, to-day.  
—W. H. Kuapp, of Paterson, is visiting in town.

—W. H. Hyde shows some improvement, to-day.

—Mrs. J. H. Wallack shows some improvement, to-day.

—Miss Eleanor Shafer went to New York City, to-day, for a week's visit.

—John Collins has gone to New York city to have an operation performed.

—Capt. C. C. Veber has removed from South street to No. 166 West Main street.

—Dr. Adams, of New York city, is the guest of Dr. A. P. Powelson, at the State Hospital.

—Mrs. Clarence Wickham, of Port Jervis, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Dorrance.

—Hugo Ostendorf, the well known mail clerk, is confined to his home by an attack of rheumatism.

—Arthur Kirby, a son of David Kirby, of Wawayanda, is visiting his numerous relatives in Sullivan county.

—Mrs. J. W. Skidmore, of Bridgeport, Ct., who has been visiting her husband, of the Wallkill Hat Works, returned home, to-day.

## DESERVED WIFE LEAVES TOWN.

Mrs. Pyle's Cat and Bird Remained True to Her Even If Her Husband Proved False.

Mrs. John C. Pyle left for Boston, today, having heard nothing from her missing husband. She was accompanied by two beautiful black cats, and to a friend who conversed with her at the station, this morning, she said: "My cats remain with me even if my husband does desert me."

She also carried a canary which seemed to have remained true to her.

## Annual Meeting of the Middletown Fair and Driving Park Association.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Middletown Fair and Driving Park Association will be held at the Russell House, Tuesday, April 5th, at 10 o'clock, for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

## Real Estate Notes.

—A. V. Book, real estate agent, has sold to James C. Runyon for George D. Brown, of Scranton, Pa., representing the heirs of the late Mayor D. W. Berry, a lot adjoining the residence of Mr. Runyon, on Grove street, 50x289. Price, \$2,500.

## THE COMMON COUNCIL.

## MUCH BUSINESS DONE AT LAST NIGHT'S REGULAR MEETING.

A Franchise Granted the Citizens' Electric Light Co., and a Five Years' Contract for Street Lighting Awarded It—The Water Question to Be Voted on Again, April 22d—Tax Sale Matters—Cellars to Be Inspected—sewer and Street Improvements—Much Minor Business.

The Citizens' Electric Light and Power Company was given a franchise at Monday night's session of the Common Council, and it was followed up by the award of a co-tract to light the city for five years for \$5,400 per year.

This meeting was a great one for the citizens. The room was filled and there was considerable competition in the rush to be heard. President Tierney was absent owing to illness and Alderman O'Neal's chair was empty. Alderman Hirst was chairman and he presided until twenty minutes of 12.

The lighting question was the all important one, and W. F. O'Neill, who represented the new company, waited until all others who desired to address the Council were through and then stated that the company desired to know whether or not a contract was to be given it in order that a plant might be constructed. When the matter was brought up by Alderman Ayres' motion that a contract now in the hands of the Mayor be made with the new company, the Mayor explained that he had not signed the contract, as it seemed to him desirable that it should be modified in some respects.

City Attorney Taylor called attention to the fact that no franchise had been granted the company. He had seen the proposed agreement and thought there were a good many shortcomings. He would not advise any official to sign it as drawn up. A little further talk developed the fact that he had drawn up a franchise which protects the city. He read it and then suggested that it be disposed of before signing a contract with the new company. Mr. O'Neill and Dr. H. C. McBrair joined in the discussion which followed. The city attorney steadily sought to delay the matter, aided slightly by Alderman Gavin, while Alderman Ayres and Allen pushed it ahead. After the attorney had pointed out two blanks in the proposed franchise, they were filled with provisions that the company was to be ready to do business in six months and that a failure to operate for one year would vitiate the franchise. On motion of Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Waldorf, a franchise was granted, all voting "aye."

Mr. Ayres then moved that the Mayor be authorized to sign a contract with the new company, which was seconded by Mr. Waldorf. Mr. Gavin amended to lay over, fearing that it was not legal to grant a contract for five years. He appealed to the attorney, who replied that he was not able to state. He would not pass upon the legality until he had time to investigate it.

Clarence Hulse, a clerk in the office of the company at present lighting the streets, had been moving around on his chair for some time, and he finally popped up and asked: " Didn't the advertisement calling for bids state one year as the time?" There was a bunting of the minutes and the young man was found to be in error, no specific time being mentioned.

Mr. Waldorf moved that the contract be given out yearly and Mr. O'Neill emphatically stated that his clients did not want a contract for one year. They would not erect a plant for that length of time. No company would do it.

Mr. Gavin—"Is it legal for a council to grant a contract for five years?"

City Attorney Taylor—"I am not now in position to say. I want the clerk to put that on the minutes—that I am not ready to decide on the legality of this thing."

Mr. O'Neill—"I am not your counsel, but I have been counsel for the city for two years and a half and I assure you you can make such a contract. The last council contracted for this room for five years."

Mr. Hirst finally put the question. Mr. Gavin's amendment having failed of a second, and the seven aldermen present voted "aye."

## ANOTHER VOTE ON WATER SUPPLY.

The next matter leading in public interest was a communication in regard to an increased water supply from the Water Board. On motion of Mr. Lawrence a special election will be held Friday, April 22d, "from 2 until 8 p.m.," to again vote upon the matter. The selection of inspectors was made. Mr. Allen named J. J. Cox; Mr. Owen named John Miles; Mr. Waldorf named Charles Keener, and Mr. Gavin named Cyrus G. Taylor.

The first ballot was informal and resulted: Taylor, 3; James Gavin, 3; Cox, 3; Keener, 3; Jacob Leifer, 3; Miles, 3. Mr. Cox was declared elected without further action. The next ballot resulted: Taylor, 1; Gavin, 5; Keener, 4; Miles, 5. Messrs. Gavin and Miles were declared elected.

## WILL PRINT THE CHARTER.

The council acted promptly on the charter question. There was only one bid received, that of the ARGUS AND MERCURY office, and on motion of Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Owen, 100 copies in book form and 100 copies in pamphlet form were ordered for \$110.

## TAX SALE MATTERS.

Mr. Hirst's resolution was carried adding 7 per cent. to all assessments for the Centre, Depot and King street paving, Sprague avenue and East avenue from Washington street and North street extension sewers, remaining unpaid June 1.

## BRIDGE AND STREET MATTERS.

Mr. Owen's request that a bridge on Mulberry street be replaced by a handsome new one, or repaired, was referred to the street committee with power to act.

The proposed grading and curbing on Beattie avenue, from Prince to Albert streets, was referred to the street committee, as was the condition of Grand avenue, from Myrtle avenue to East Main street, and the Cushing avenue.

The acting chairman appointed the

who once owned property at 17 and 19 Wickham avenue. His explanation was reasonable and the matter was referred to the Law Committee.

P. D. Nearing had a similar grievance. He had paid once for work which the city did afterward. Ex-President W. H. Hallock spoke in support of his claim. Same committee referred.

Geo. W. Powers appeared for Daniel Smith, of 12 Fairview avenue. He had purchased his property with pension money and demanded exemption from whatever part of the claim against him was reasonable. Same reference.

Thomas Nevils said his property was advertised and that he had no money to pay the taxes due. He had, however, a team, and wanted the privilege of working out the city's claim. Referred to Law Committee.

## WANT CELLARS INSPECTED.

R. M. Rorty, C. D. Hanford, John E. Adams and W. H. Rogers, a committee from the Merchants' Association, was present, with Mr. Rorty as spokesman. He urged basement inspections, in the hope of reducing rates of fire insurance. A motion was promptly passed empowering Chief Higham and Capt. Weber to make inspections every two weeks.

## SEWER AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS.

T. W. Davey brought up the Bonnell and Chestnut street sewers ordered last fall, and the Council voted to construct them early this season. Similar disposal was made of a petition for curbing and guttering Linden avenue from Hasbrouck to North street.

A petition for flagging the north side of West Main street, west of Monhagen avenue, and the curbing of the south side, was referred to the street committee.

The petition for the acceptance of Jay

street, running west from Highland avenue to Watkins avenue, was also referred to the Street Committee.

E. S. Merrill asked that a check be sent to the Water Board for the frost tax now due.

## THE MACHINE TOOK HIS LAND.

J. W. Phillips brought up the taking of four feet of his land on East Main street, without his consent when that thoroughfare was straightened. He was particularly incensed at ex-Mayor Stanbury and "the machine." He had objected to the change at the time, "but it was no use bucking the machine." It was, he said, a "bunch game" all the way through, and as he had been instrumental in "turning down the machine," he supposed that was why he had been ignored. The matter was referred to the Law Committee.

## REFERRED TO THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

John E. Adams asked permission to raise one portion of the property he recently purchased at No. 9 Orchard street and to build an addition 24x16. The Council regretted his failure to present plans, and finally referred the matter to the Building Committee with power to act.

Mr. Ayres then moved that the Mayor be authorized to sign a contract with the new company, which was seconded by Mr. Waldorf. Mr. Gavin amended to lay over, fearing that it was not legal to grant a contract for five years. He appealed to the attorney, who replied that he was not able to state. He would not pass upon the legality until he had time to investigate it.

The petition of the Middletown Ice Company and the Orange County Brewing Company for a fire alarm box at Olive street and Lake avenue or as much nearer their plants as possible was referred to the Fire Committee with power to act.

## A FIRE ALARM BOX WANTED.

Mr. Ayres brought up the fire alarm box at Olive street and Lake avenue or as much nearer their plants as possible was referred to the Fire Committee with power to act.

## MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

Ex-Constable Fred B. Wood will have his bond returned to him, as requested.

A communication from Thomas Wattie, which was in the nature of a claim, was referred to the city attorney without being read.

Hugh Allen, Sr., resigned as park commissioner, the duties being too arduous.

The city engineer was instructed to prepare maps for a sanitary sewer through Watkins avenue, to be submitted at the next meeting.

## ALDERMAN OWEN MAKES A MOTION.

Alderman Owen, the appointee from the Third Ward, here broke his record. He made a motion. It was to the effect that all bridging of gutters with flag



## FROM THE PATENT OFFICE.

A New Englander has invented an electric bicycle which carries storage batteries of sufficient capacity to run the motor, which is geared to the rear wheel, to propel the bicycle.

The combination of a shovel and fork has recently been patented, the shovel blade having pockets to receive the tines of the fork, with a clamp at the upper edge to attach it to the handle.

In a newly designed bicycle handle the central core is screw threaded at each end, with sections cut out to allow it to contract around the bar when the screw ferrules are turned on at each end.

In a new bicycle alarm a revolving friction wheel is mounted on a plunger with a whistle on the upper side of a casing which is blown by forcing air through it as the friction wheel turns on the tire.

Oil cannot be spilled from a recently-designed can when it is tipped over, the cap over the filling aperture being mounted on a jointed rod, which closes the valve at the base of the outlet nozzle when it is screwed down.

A new flagstaff-holder for small flags has a ball and socket joint formed of a cylindrical socket in the base plate, in which a ball at the end of the holder is fastened by screws, making it removable and adjustable at any angle.

A handy device for holding pens so they will not mar a desk or book consists of a flat base, supporting a small well in the center, with a flaring mouth and a projecting shoulder part way down the opening, against which the holder rests.

Incandescent gas burners are being fitted with electrical lighting attachments, in which the sparking device extends up inside the burner to a point just below the mantle, the current turning on the gas and operating the igniter when the circuit is closed.

## NOTES ON NOTABLES.

The duke of Atholl takes the palm among British peers as a many-titled man. He has 23 titles.

Walter Ralston, who travels for the Smithsonian institution, has made a special study of poisonous insects and reptiles, and has been fanged over 200 times.

The admirers of Rev. A. M. Toplady, author of that much-sung hymn, "Rock of Ages Cleft for Me," have on foot a scheme to commemorate his life and work.

The reason Charles Villiers left \$750,000 to each of his nephews was because the "Father of Parliament" was left the money by Miss Mellish. They mutually loved, but never married.

A grand army post in Norwich, Conn., is raising funds to buy the former home in that city of William A. Buckingham, the war governor of Connecticut, and preserve it as a war museum.

Mr. Gladstone is one of the greatest opponents of divorce in the English-speaking world. He believes that marriage is a contract for life, which only expires when life itself expires.

The countess of Dudley, it is said, will soon marry Dr. Jameson of Transvaal fame. The lady is still a remarkably beautiful woman, and as persistently young as the princess of Wales.

The Franklin institute of Philadelphia has awarded to Herman C. Mueller, the artist of Zanesville, O., the John Scott premium and medal "to the most deserving" for his process for manufacturing mosaics.

To keep alive the memory of William Terriss, the English actor, his friends have decided not to erect a monument, but to maintain a lifeboat at Margate or Ramsgate, which places were particularly loved by Terriss.

## CONCERNING WOMEN.

Miss Lucy Wheelock, of Boston, has been reelected president of the International Kindergarten union.

Mrs. Helen Douglass, widow of Frederick Douglass, has been speaking in Rochester upon "The Convict Lease System of the South."

Mrs. Carrie Swift Atwater, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., has been elected president of the Vassar Alumnae association to succeed Miss Heloise E. Hersey, of Boston.

Mrs. Kate Woolsey, one of the largest real estate owners in New York city, has offered a magnificent site free for the proposed exposition of Greater New York.

Martha Partington, of Brooklyn, has been sworn in by Mayor Van Wyck as assistant clerk of the court of special sessions. She is the first woman to serve in such a capacity in New York city.

Miss Martha Schofield, who founded the Schofield school for colored youth 33 years ago, at Aiken, S. C., finds herself spent in service and without means to carry on the ever-increasing work. She asks: "Are our friends willing not to stand by us now, as in the past, for this work which belongs to all?"

## TRIMMING IN VOGUE.

Heavy silk reps belting. Jet belts representing a serpent. Chiffon crimped in bayadere rows.

Black chantilly lace for waists. Lace bands in heavy medallion designs.

Narrow moire ribbon for edging ruffles.

Bayadere striped neckties in heavy reps.

Long ties of applique lace for the throat.

Fancy empire combs in shell, plain and jeweled.

Silver buckles set with turquoise on white belts.

Colored silk waists having a V and collar of white satin.

Waists of colored taffeta braided with white satin bands.

## SICK HEADACHE.

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They Regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

**Small P.M. Small Dose. Small Price.**

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, SILVER-WARE, CLOCKS AND OPTICAL GOODS AT REDUCED PRICES.

I have on hand a lot of 50c Spectacles which I will close out at 20c a pair, and examine the eye free of charge.

A FULL LINE OF BICYCLES AND ACCESSORIES.

Dayton, Barnes, Orient, Liberty and Featherstone lines. Good second-hand wheels at bottom prices. Repairing in all branches at prices that will surprise you.

**C. L. SWEZY,**  
28 James St., Casino Building,  
Middletown, N. Y.

WIRE LAMP SHADE FRAMES.

Tissue Paper and Crepe Tissue Paper.

ALSO NOVELS, MAGAZINES AND DAILY PAPERS.

**S. W. MILLSPAUGH & CO.**  
20 North street.

A Large Assortment of FLOWER SEEDS!

Double Pearl Tuberose Bulbs, Mixed Sweet Peas in bulk, Onion Sets, etc., at

**F. M. PRONK'S.**

**Restored Manhood.**

**DR. MOTT'S NERVERINE PILLS.**

The great remedy for nervous prostration and all nervous disorders, especially of the organs of either sex, such as Nervous Prostration, Mental Impairment, Nervous Diseases, Mental Errors, Mental Worry, excessive use of Tobacco or Opium, which lead to Consumption and Insanity. With every \$2 order we give a written guarantee to cure or refund the money. Sold \$1.00 per box, boxes for \$5.00, Dr. MOTT'S CHEMICAL COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio. SOLD IN MIDDLETOWN BY W. D. OLNEY

**SANTAL MUDY.**  
These tiny capsules are superior to Balsam of Copavia, Cubes or Injections and CURE IN 48 HOURS MUDY the same diseases without inconvenience. Sold by all Druggists.

**PIANOS**

We are now closing out at a sacrifice several odd styles of new pianos, and a great variety of slightly used organs and pianos to make room for new stock.

**ORGANS**

Catalogues, full particulars and terms sent upon application.

SOLD ON INSTALMENTS, IF DESIRED.

**Mason & Hamlin Co.**

3 and 5 WEST 18TH STREET, NEW YORK.

**GRAIN, FLOUR, FEED.**

Baled Hay and Straw at Lowest Market Rates.

**C. J. EVERSON**

RO. 4 AND KING STREET.



## THE KISS OF DEATH.

Consumption is abroad in the land and death may lurk in a kiss. Of course it is absurd to suppose that as long as love rules the world, people will stop kissing. That leaves only one protection against consumption. If the blood is pure and the tissues sound and healthy, the deadly germs of consumption are harmless. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the great blood purifier and tissue builder. It makes the liver active, the digestion perfect, and the appetite keen. It drives out all disease germs and builds solid, healthy flesh.

There is another and graver danger that threatens women in the marital relation. It is the peril that attends maternity. No woman can safely become a mother who suffers from weakness or ill-health of the delicate organs that bear the burdens of child-bearing. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription robes maternity of its unnatural terrors. It makes a woman strong and vigorous where she most needs strength and vigor. It banishes the annoyances of the period of anticipation and makes the little stranger's advent easy and almost painless. Good druggists sell both the "Golden Medical Discovery" and the "Favorite Prescription" and will not try to substitute inferior preparations.

I suffered with a bearing down pain in my pelvis and a hurting in my back and loins, especially whenever I exposed myself or took cold," writes Mrs. Little Cunningham, of Weir, Choceta Co., Miss. "I took Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and 'Golden Medical Discovery' for three months and am now strong and well and all my bad feelings have disappeared."

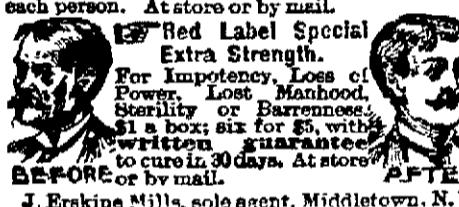
Billious attacks and constipation are surely speedily and permanently cured by Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. They regulate and invigorate stomach, liver and bowels. One little "Pellet" is a gentle laxative and two a mild cathartic. They never grippe. An honest druggist will not offer some worthless substitute for profit's sake.

**Health is Wealth.**



## DR. E. C. WEST'S NERVE AND BRAIN TREATMENT

THE ORIGINAL, ALL OTHERS IMITATIONS, Is sold under positive Written Guarantee, Authorized Agents only, to cure Weak Memory, Dizziness, Weakness, Fits, Hysteria, Quickness, Night Losses, Evil Dreams, Lack of Confidence, Nervousness, Lasting, all Drains, Yacht, Mental Errors, or Excessive Use of Tobacco, Opium, or Liquor, which leads to Memory, Confusion, and Delusion. Price \$1.00 per box, \$1.50 per small box, \$2.00 per large box, \$5.00 per written guarantee to cure or refund money. Sample packages, containing five drs. treatment, with full instructions, 25 cents. One sample only sold to each person. At store or by mail.



## DR. E. C. WEST'S NERVE AND BRAIN TREATMENT

These stains are made with great care, from the very best materials, and with one coat give a fine color and finish to all kinds of Furniture (wood and rattan) and interior woodwork, making it look like new.

SOLD BY

## J. ERSKINE MILLS,

Druggist, North St.

## FOR SALE.

The large house and lot, No. 8 Linden avenue, opposite the Madison Avenue. Very suitable for a private family or boarders. Can rent and do neighborhood, good property, lot about 75x125 feet. We will sell these premises at a great sacrifice and easy terms.

GARDNER & McWILLIAMS,

25 North St., Lipfield Building

## High St. Cash Price Paid for Dead Cows and Horses

for fertilizing purposes, within the radius of 12 miles from Middletown. Owners receive by telephone, telegraph or post at no cost. Also orders received at 12 Fulton street, Middletown.

HENRY E. MEYER

## HAPPINESS VS. MISERY.

Dr. Charcot's Tonic Tablets, the great Parisian Dr. Charcot's Tonic Tablets, the great Parisian

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